

Internationalist Voices against Capital's War in the Balkans

**Internationalist declarations of
communist left organisations**

communist left discussion circle, Melbourne

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Melbourne, Australia.

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Preface

The war in the Balkans is a particularly clear case of the need for internationalists to express their solidarity in the face of imperialist war and all its atrocities. But this solidarity does not go to this or that nation or people, which include both victims and executioners, the exploited and the exploiters, whether the latter have the face of a Milosevic, or the nationalist clique of the KLA which is already forcibly recruiting men of fighting age from the refugee columns. Communist solidarity is class solidarity, towards the workers and exploited whether Serb or Albanian, to the workers in uniform who are killed or transformed into assassins in the name of the "Fatherland" or "Democracy". And it is first and foremost up to the world proletariat's biggest battalions, the workers of Europe and North America, to demonstrate this solidarity, not by marching behind the banners of pacifism but by developing their struggles against capitalism, against their exploiters in their own countries.

Communists have the duty to denounce with equal force both the pacifists and the warmongers. Pacifism breeds the illusion that "good will" or "international negotiations" can put an end to wars. By doing so, it maintains the lie that there could exist a "good" capitalism, respectful of "peace" and "human" rights, and so turns the workers away from the class struggle against capitalism as a whole. Worse still, they become the recruiting sergeants for military "crusades", with the argument: "Since wars are provoked by 'bad', 'nationalist', 'bloodthirsty' capitalists, we will only have peace when we liquidate these 'bad' capitalists... by making war on them if need be". We have seen exactly this in Germany, where the main leader of the 1980s pacifist movements, Joschka Fischer, is today the man mainly responsible for his country's imperialist policy. He is even proud of it, declaring that "For the first time for a long time, Germany is making war in a good cause".

From the first days of the war, the internationalists, with their modest means, have spoken out against the imperialist bar-

barism. All the groups which consider themselves part of the Communist Left¹ reacted at the same moment, putting forward the same internationalist principles. Statements were distributed by members of the various organisations across Europe, and in the United States, some countries of Latin America, and in India. Statements were also distributed in other countries, such as Australia and Canada, where Communist Left individuals and discussion circles exist.

The Communist Left Discussion Circle in Melbourne has produced this booklet in order to bring these statements to an even wider audience. We welcome any responses from readers, who are also urged to contact the groups of the Communist Left themselves.

- * See the end of this booklet for a list of these groups and how to contact them.

No to all Imperialist Action in Yugoslavia! Down with all Nationalisms and all Bourgeois Oppressions!

Workers, comrades!

The military action perpetrated against Yugoslavia by the countries members of the Atlantic Alliance and led by the United States, is nothing but a typical bourgeois war for a new imperialist share-out of the world.

With their war against Yugoslavia, the United States, Germany, UK, France, Italy, etc. — economically the most powerful countries of the world and politically the most “democratic”, the most respectful of the “Human Rights” and the “International Law” — demonstrate that they actually are **the most aggressive** when somewhere on earth a state or local power refuses to submit to their “higher interests”.

As a matter of fact, American Democrats, French, English, German and Italian Social-democrats (and their leftist and green junior partners) didn’t care much of the fate of the Kosovars, as they didn’t care for the fate of the Kurds, Palestinians, Bosnians or Tutsis. Their governments only act out of fear that the disturbances — continually created everywhere by the capitalist system — may hurt the national (capitalist) interests or have harmful consequences concerning the rearrangement of political, economic, military influences that for years the greatest imperialisms are maturing.

Neither pressures and warnings to Turkey, nor the war against Iraq stopped the repression and slaughter of Kurds; neither pressures nor warnings to Israel stopped repression and slaughter of Palestinians. Yesterday, UNO’s missions, “Task Forces” and embargoes were unable to prevent the wars between the States born from the breaking of the old Yugoslavia. Today the military action of the western bourgeoisie against the rump Yugoslavia, the bombing of Belgrade and Pristina, will not pre-

vent the “ethnic cleansing” of the Kosovars.

UNOs, NGOs (“Non Governmental Organisations”), pacifist or humanitarian aid missions, in spite of all their declarations and announcements, never stopped the repression of the ruling class everywhere against workers, impoverished masses or ethnic minorities; sometimes they even paved the way to more dreadful repressions and slaughters. There are plenty of facts which demonstrate the illusory nature of humanitarian aid and pacifism.

It’s not the good intentions or the better feelings, but the **relation of forces** which prevail under capitalism, especially when material interests are competing. When the interests of capitalist States are at stake, at a certain point the commercial, financial and political conflicts are bound to change into war. In the same way, when class interests are clashing and when the proletarian fight-back is growing ever stronger, the class fight must become revolutionary struggle.

The military action of the great western powers against Yugoslavia is the continuation of the imperialist politics, which yesterday were made by the means of diplomacy, “dialogue” and “negotiation” — i.e. by a combination of pressure, blackmail, threats and all kind of rewards (territorial gains, commercial prospects, bribery, etc.).

The American brigands forced the hand of their European accomplices in international robbery (“allies” for now, but for how long will it last?) in order to demonstrate that the chief is in Washington. Consequently Berlin, London, Paris, Rome and with them Madrid, Ottawa and Amsterdam rushed into the war... to make peace! All of them are rushing to bomb again and again the “military targets” in Serbia, Montenegro and Kosovo — causing unavoidable civilian casualties with their so-called “surgical strikes” — ... to stop the killings in Kosovo and to “force Milosevic” to agree with a “peace plan” concocted by the great powers!

China and Russia indeed have protested, but it’s only

because they are left out or because Serbia is their protégé: Chechens and Tibetans know very well how they used to deal with recalcitrant countries or disobedient ethnic minorities...

The truth is that the **"New World Order"** is nothing but a continuous succession of violent actions and wars, inspired or carried out by rival capitalist States which have very definite political, economical and military interests to defend or to impose, and which need also to keep themselves prepared for future military actions. Today, after the collapse of the Soviet Union, of the Soviet military and economic might, only the United States is able to intervene all over the world. But it's of paramount importance for them to get their allies involved in the military actions against Iraq or Yugoslavia, not only to portray these aggressions as democratic campaigns against "totalitarianism" and "barbarity", but also to reassert their military and political domination over their economic competitors.

50 years ago NATO was officially created by the United States to protect Western Europe — but in fact to maintain their domination over these countries — and the USSR did the same thing in Eastern Europe: it was the time of the **American and Russian condominium** over Europe and the world. The "Soviet threat" disappeared years ago, but the USA doesn't think about dissolving the Alliance. On the contrary, not only do they enlarge it with the entry of countries of the ex-Soviet bloc, but NATO is now promoted as the super-cop of Europe! The aim is to prevent the forming of an independent military power of European capitalists, and to repress all those who don't submit to the imperialist order.

Workers, Comrades!

Class-conscious workers must not stay inert and indifferent in front of the oppression that the ruling classes inflict to the impoverished masses or the national minorities. They must fight against all forms of oppression, they must raise their voice against the bourgeoisie without awaiting for the thundering of the bombs and the rattle of the machine-guns.

The only realistic and efficient way to stop the oppression, the repression, the slaughters and wars perpetrated by the bourgeois powers inside and outside the national borders to sustain and strengthen their domination, is the **proletarian and anti-capitalist class struggle**.

The class struggle waged in a completely independent way, i.e. outside the politics, the methods and organisations of the collaboration between the classes, is the politics of the proletariat against the bourgeoisie and first of all against “their own” bourgeoisie. To fight against wars and police actions of “their own” bourgeois State doesn’t mean to express any solidarity with other bourgeois States or other bourgeois factions, with “anti-imperialist” or “democratic” States, with “humanitarian” bourgeoisies against “barbaric” and “totalitarian” ones, etc. On the contrary it means breaking all links with all bourgeois factions, it means the rejection of the belief in Democracy — which is nothing else than the political form of the collaboration between the classes — and its national and international institutions (Parliament, UNO, etc.). At last it means for the workers organising and using their strength **for the sole defence of their economic, social and political class interests**, inside and outside the factories, inside the national borders and on the international scale.

Class-conscious workers never sustain any military action of imperialist countries, even with the pretext of humanitarian (!) and pacist (!) aims. It’s for the same reason that they opposed all the recent military actions — in Lebanon, Iraq, Africa, Yugoslavia — and yesterday, the colonial and imperialist world wars: because all these actions and wars were only waged for bourgeois interests. Our position is clear: **yes to revolutionary defeatism, no to the class-collaborationist politics, no to national union, struggle against all the alliances of bourgeois powers, against all military and police actions of the ruling class, even those democratically voted in the Parliament.**

Therefore we invite the workers to denounce and to fight without any hesitation the current NATO military operations in Yugoslavia. But without any sustain [support] to Yugoslavia, to

its State and to its regime which, undoubtedly weak and underdeveloped, are nevertheless as bourgeois and reactionary as NATO's aggressors. European and American workers must be by the side of the workers of Yugoslavia, Serbia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Vojvodine, Montenegro. They must be by the side of the workers of all countries, whatever their nationality, or their ethnic origin, because it's only by overcoming the national and ethnic divisions that the proletariat will be able to exist and assert himself as **one international class**, able to break the infernal circle of oppression, repression, ethnic cleansing and war. By overcoming all the barriers of nationality, race and religion, the workers will get the possibility of fighting against the capitalist system of wage labour, of profit, markets, of private property, against the system of the war of all against all. But to remain in the thrall of the nationalist and democratic poison, to stay the prisoner of interclassist politics, means on the contrary to have their hands tied to the bourgeoisie and to its State, to be condemned to become mere cannon fodder.

- **Against the military action of Western imperialism in Yugoslavia**, because we oppose all the bourgeois wars and all the warring bourgeoisies.
- **Against the participation of our country in military actions in Yugoslavia or elsewhere**, because the working class cannot accept any complicity with the ruling class and its State.
- **Against the anti-Albanian repression in Kosovo**, because we fight against all forms of racism and nationalist repression.
- **Against all forms of nationalism, whether Yugoslav, Serbian, Kosovar, Montenegrin, etc., or American, British, French, etc.**, because the nationalism divides the working class and benefits only the bourgeoisie and capitalism.
- **Against all forms of collaborationism and interclassist**

union between the working class and the bourgeoisie, because it prevents the revival of the class struggle.

- **Against all democratic, parliamentarist, pacifist, humanitarian illusions, because they paralyse the working class and they keep it tied to the bourgeois order!**
- **For the classist reorganisation of the working class, over the national divisions, because it's only with the unification in one international class that the workers in the whole world will be able to crush capitalism.**
- **For the internationalist class struggle revival against all economic, national, racial, political and military oppressions.**
- **For the formation of the world communist party, leading organ of the struggles of the working class in all countries, in the everyday defence against exploitation and oppression as in the revolutionary fight, in the overthrow of capitalist States and the establishment of the international dictatorship of the proletariat!**

International Communist Party (*le prolétaire*)

26 March 1999

Supplement to *le prolétaire* N° 448

Against the Slaughter in Kosovo — And the Bombing in Serbia Down with the Imperialist War!

The crisis of Russian capitalism (forced to reveal the fake-ness of its alleged socialist regime not so long ago) and the generalised crisis of world capitalism, have resulted in war in Europe.

The Balkan “tinder-box”, the so-called causer of wars, is the playground for the latest conflict between imperialist interests. Whilst NATO poses as the saviour of the helpless victims in Kosovo to justify the bombing of helpless victims in Serbia, Russia is bankrupt and incapable of intervening to defend historical interests in the area. Germany and the other European powers would like to extend the European Union across the former Yugoslavian states in order to link up with Greece. The USA has, meanwhile, used the present conflict to remind both Europe and the Middle East of its military presence and has used it to fully entrench itself in the Albanian ports and surrounding areas.

Comrades, Workers

The working class of the former Yugoslavia has been splintered by the only weapon the local bourgeoisie have — ethnic conflict. The so-called “ethnic cleansing” that is taking place is a classic divide-and-rule tactic, and is the latest refinement of previous bourgeois strategies to divide the working class. Any possibility of class consciousness and class organisation has been drowned in blood as the “atrocities” committed by both sides foment nationalist hatreds, and push worker to kill worker.

The tragic faces of the refugees speak of the misery of the dispossessed of the Earth. And on the back of their misery, and cynically masked by trumpeting about “humanitarian aid”, a redivision of the market will take place, and the victors will jostle for contracts to repair the war damage.

Capitalism directs its war as always against the proletariat, in peace calling for sweat and toil, and in war for blood. The role of the bleating pacifists stands revealed as out and out allies of

imperialism since their hymns to universal peace deny the class struggle; the one thing capable, as shown by the Revolution of 1917, of smashing the bourgeois regime and putting a stop to their wars.

Colluding in this disarmament of the working class in The British Isles are the official patriot unions and the Left, orchestrated by the Labour Party and the TUC. During every imperialist undertaking, instead of organising the struggle out of the places of work, the opportunist good-for-nothings — constituting a real fifth column in the working class — call for debates in the Houses of Parliament, for the intervention of the United Nations, or international conferences — anything but class struggle and solidarity between workers on both sides of the battle zones.

Comrades, Workers

For a revival of the class struggle, to defend standards of living as much as to oppose the bourgeoisie's warmongering interests, a reborn class union will be needed which will genuinely express proletarian interests; the other necessity is for the communist party to be strengthened, the one party capable of leading the final struggle for a real human society

International Communist Party (*Communist Left*)

[This group is better known in Italy, as the Partito Comunista Internazionale (*il partito comunista*).]

Cahiers Internationalistes **organ of the International Communist Party**

All continents are now affected by the crisis of the capitalist mode of production. The entire world economy is plunged into a chronic crisis of overproduction in which, alternatively, long phases of stagnation and of always brief economic revival exacerbate the clashes and shocks among the different imperialisms.

Faced with the tendential fall of the average rate of profit and of growth in the long term, Capital seeks to revalue itself, but it does not have any possibility of doing this. It does not have any united solution to the massive destruction of the productive forces becoming in excess (the proletarians, the means of production...) which will allow it to begin a new cycle of expansion as in 1918 and 1945 (so called "national reconstruction"), so it doesn't have any other solution but imperialist war for a hostile (re)division of the world and a new distribution of the markets.

So the Balkans bombardments signify that nothing can be done in the world without the USA, the dominant imperialism. The European Union, which wants to present a strong united face to the American giant, will not emerge except under the boot of a future dominant imperialism in its ranks (Germany) is today even weaker, particularly militarily. Here is the meaning of this latest military adventure. It is a question of a lot of other things than "humanitarian aid" to the martyred and deported Albanian population.

In this war proletarians have nothing to defend— no country, no camps. They must denounce the covetousness (not only military, but equally political and diplomatic) of their own imperialism in the Balkans. They cannot defend anything but their own lot, their living and working conditions.

In each imperialist camp, proletarians continue to die and to be exploited and "war lords", the representatives of the god Capital on earth continue to accumulate juicy profits and to tan

the hide of proletarians.

They must return to the spirit of the Third International (travestied by Stalinism, into defence of the Fatherland and the Nation in danger) to demand the international unity of the working class, the rejection of hatred between nationalities and fraternisation of the belligerent armies. They must reject all appeals for the war, including those in "humanitarian" accents and those for national resistance in irregular armies. They must pick up the flag of revolutionary defeatism, that is to say of the defeat of all the imperialist camps, up till the time of the proletarian victory against the bourgeoisie and all its states, thus signifying the return to the methods of direct, open and no longer collaborationist class struggle.

Against collaboration in the defence of the Fatherland in national resistance!

Against "our" own imperialism, against national defence!

The enemy is in our own country: "our" own bourgeoisie.

International Communist Party (*il programme comunista*)

April 1999

From *cahiers internationalistes*

Capitalism means Imperialism, Imperialism means War

What cynicism! What hypocrisy! Day in, day out millions upon millions of human beings all over the world are exploited like animals for starvation wages. Millions more live in absolute poverty. None of this offends the delicate consciences of the gentlemen of the bourgeois press who are trying to convince us that the bombing of Serbia is for the "humanitarian purpose" of preventing massacre of civilians in Kosovo.

They are shameless liars!

Of course, they are just capitalism's hired hacks. They only obey one logic. This is the logic of the capitalist who exists only to realise the greatest amount of profit even if it means stepping over the corpse of his own mother! In reality the game that is being played out in the Balkans is just one episode in the confrontation between the various imperialist powers in order to gain control of sources of oil, oil revenues and commercial and financial markets. It is a ferocious conflict for domination of the planet.

The United States is trying to prevent the formation of a new imperialist bloc which might be able to compete with them for primacy in the world.

This is why they have widened NATO's presence throughout the entire Balkan region and in Eastern Europe. Having armed, clothed and equipped the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) they aim, with the stabilising presence of their troops in Kosovo, to secure control of the oil of the Caucasus region, to finally relegate Russia (which still remains the world's second military power) to the role of onlooker and, perhaps the most important thing, to deliver a heavy blow to European hopes of playing an independent imperialist role.

The Europeans in their turn, are putting a brave face on things by supporting NATO military action only to avoid the risk

of being totally excluded from an area of such vital importance. Meanwhile Europe is hoping to create a common military apparatus in line with its common currency.

Serbia itself, though posing as the sacrificial victim, really hopes to exploit its own strategic position better. It is trying to carve out a role as regional power which would allow its bourgeoisie to pocket a huge income. To do this it has never hesitated to tighten its grip on workers' necks (including those in Kosovo). In the period of greatest economic crisis the Serbian Government imposed a wage freeze, despite the fact that inflation was 2000% per year; revoked all forms of political and economic autonomy, and drowned in blood the anger of millions of workers.

This is no different from what the ruling class is doing the world over. War is not caused by "humanitarian meddling" nor "defence of the nation". The root cause of war is capitalism's incessant drive for greater profit, whatever the cost.

For genuine communists the choice therefore is not between imperialisms.

We don't distinguish between the small and large imperialisms. The politics of choosing the supposed lesser of two evils is opportunist and dishonest.

Any support for this or that imperialist front is support for capitalism. It is a betrayal of the international working class and the cause of socialism. The only way to escape from the logic of war is through the revival of class struggle, in Kosovo as well as the rest of Europe, in the USA as well as Russia.

The solidarity of internationalist communists is reserved exclusively for the workers of Kosovo and Serbia who are suffering under the double weight of capitalist exploitation and the dramatic and direct consequences of imperialist war.

Against war! Against Capitalism!

For the revival of class struggle!

For rebuilding the Revolutionary Party!

International Bureau for the Revolutionary Party
25 March 1999



NATO Bombing in Yugoslavia **Capitalism is War, War on Capitalism!**

Once again, Yugoslavia is being laid to waste. But these are not the “inter-ethnic” massacres that have been going on since 1991, thanks to the great powers’ providing weapons and support to the different nationalist cliques.

Today, it is the NATO “democracies” that have unleashed a rain of fire on the populations of Serbia, Montenegro, and Kosovo. For let there be no mistake: under the bombs, there are not just military targets. There are soldiers who never asked to be there, workers and peasants in uniform. There are the civilian populations, women, children and the old, who have the misfortune to live next to military bases, refineries, and arms factories — in other words working-class families for the most part. And there are the impotent and terrified populations forced into exile in their thousands.

Once again, capitalism is showing us its real face: an endless barbarism, where the great powers’ prodigious technology is at the service of death and destruction.

Gone are the illusions in a new “era of peace” that they promised us after the collapse of the Eastern bloc! The end of the so-called “socialist bloc” and the end of the Cold War have not ended military conflict. On the contrary! Since 1989, military tensions and slaughter have not stopped spreading: in Iraq, in ex-Yugoslavia, in the republics of the ex-USSR, throughout the African continent, in Afghanistan, India, Pakistan, etc.

This is the reality of the “New World Order” so fêted by the great democracies after the fall of the Russian bloc: an ever-bloodier chaos unleashed now in the heart of Europe.

World capitalism in all its forms, whether “democratic” or

"totalitarian" bears war within itself.

Milosevic, Clinton, & Co: gangsters and assassins every one!

During "Operation Desert Storm" in the Persian Gulf in 1991, all the governments of the "Western democracies" told us that their war was "clean", "surgical", intended to defend "international law" and eliminate the "butcher of Baghdad".

HYPOCRITES!

This "clean" war left hundreds of thousands dead. To this day, the civilian population is still paying the price for this dreadful slaughter, and Saddam's dictatorship still reigns over Iraq. Our rulers claim to be fighting dictators: to do so, they crush under their bombs the populations oppressed by these same dictators.

As for "international law", this is the least concern for the great democracies of Europe and America.

Today, it is clearer than ever: NATO's bombardment of Serbia, without even the fig-leaf of a UN mandate, demonstrates clearly that the world's leaders care not a jot for their "international law"!

All these imperialist scoundrels claim to be upholding "the law". True — but what law? *THEIR* law: the law of the jungle, the law of the strongest, gangster law. The law of capitalism.

Just like Saddam Hussein, Milosevic is a blood-stained dictator of the worst kind. But he has nothing to teach the great democracies. They have never hesitated to torture and massacre on a grand scale in Hiroshima, Korea, Vietnam, Algeria, and Iraq...

These so-called defenders of the oppressed plumb the depths of cynicism when we think that most of the regimes led by dictators like Milosevic (Pinochet, Saddam, Kabila, Mobutu & Co.) were set up, supported, and armed by those who today are

denouncing their crimes.

The parties of the left: spearheads of military barbarism

The left-wing parties — Labour, Socialists, Greens, etc. — all claim to defend the oppressed and exploited, to be champions of “human rights” and apostles of peace.

Today, most of the governments taking part in the slaughter are led by these same left parties. In government, the left loyally defends the economic interests of capitalism, constantly attacking the workers’ living conditions. In government, the left participates fully and without a qualm in capitalist military barbarism behind the “democrat” Clinton.

Blair, Schröder, Jospin and the others are the rightful heirs of those socialist leaders who sent the workers off to die in the trenches in 1914, and then led the slaughter when the proletariat tried to overthrow capitalism as in Germany 1919.

Capitalism is ever more chaos and bloodshed

Make war to preserve peace. War to defend the values of humanitarian democracy. The lie is as threadbare as it is revolting! The ruling classes unleashed the slaughter of World War I claiming that this would be “the war to end war”, in the name of “civilisation”. Twenty years later, the bloodshed was even worse. The Allied victory in World War II was supposed to be the victory of democracy over Nazi barbarism, but since 1945 the wars have not stopped, and have claimed as many victims as the world war itself.

All the blood-stained scoundrels taking part in the conflict between Milosevic and NATO are the worthy representatives of the system that rules the planet. A system which, even in the richest countries, reduces to poverty and throws into the street tens of millions of human beings, and which plunges into a living hell three quarters of humanity given over to famine, disease, and endless massacres. A system which today is creating a mind-boggling chaos.

By unleashing their frightful military might, the US godfather and its European accomplices claiming to be combating chaos and preventing the massacre of civilians. Nothing could be more untrue! The result of “Operation Allied Force” can only be still more killing visited on the Albanian populations that they claim to be protecting, a war spreading through the Balkans, a bloody chaos unleashed in Europe.

The NATO forces can kill as many as they like in Serbia. As in Iraq, this new “humanitarian” crusade will not produce any “new world order”.

Wars are not caused by “diplomatic error” or the “ill-will” of the world’s leaders. They are capitalism’s only answer to its insurmountable economic crisis. It is the crisis that is sharpening the rivalries between nations. The more the crisis deepens — as we are seeing today — the more capitalism will wallow in blood, and the closer war will come to the developed countries.

What else are we witnessing today? For the first time in 50 years, the great powers have unleashed open and massive war on the soil of Europe. And it’s not over yet. The future will be bloodier and more barbaric than the past.

*Only the workers’ class struggle can
put an end to capitalism’s barbarism*

Today, like yesterday, the civilian population and especially the workers are the first victims of imperialist war. In Serbia, as in Iraq, it is workers’ in uniform not the government’s men who will serve as cannon-fodder. If NATO troops are used, it is working-class families who will weep for their dead children.

But the working class is not just war’s first victim. It is also the only force that can really combat capitalist barbarity.

It was the working class in Russia in 1917, and in Germany in 1918, that forced the ruling class to put an end to World War I.

And if the workers were unable to prevent nor put an end

to World War II, it is because they were beaten down by the Stalinist counter-revolution, terrorised by fascism, or enrolled under the banners of the left parties in the “Popular Front” or the “Resistance”.

Because the world working class, ever since the massive strikes of May '68 in France, has developed its struggle and refused to submit to the logic of capitalism, it has been able to prevent a Third World War from being unleashed.

Every faction of the ruling class wants to hide their own strength from the workers:

- by making believe that war and peace depend only on diplomatic negotiations between world leaders,
- by making believe, with their campaigns about the “death of communism”, that the proletarian revolution can never lead to anything but Stalinist dictatorship,
- by diverting the workers’ anger and alarm onto the rotten ground of illusions in a “peaceful” capitalism.

“Pacifism” has always been the warmongers’ best ally. The slaughter won’t be stopped by demonstrations demanding negotiations and calling for governments to show “wisdom”. This we have already seen before both World Wars, during the Vietnam war, and during the Gulf War.

All these masquerades have been a means to turn the working class away from the only struggle that really can stand against war, and put an end to barbarism for good: the massive and united struggle of the whole exploited class against the enemy class, the class of exploiters and murderers.

By refusing to accept the sacrifices that the ruling class wants to impose in order to finance its wars, by refusing to bear the brunt of the system’s economic crisis, the workers can gain the collective strength to refuse the ultimate sacrifice: that of their

lives in imperialist war.

By refusing to let themselves be intimidated by the display of force by the great powers, the workers will be able to overcome their own feeling of impotence, and regain confidence in their own ability to play a decisive role in the future of humanity.

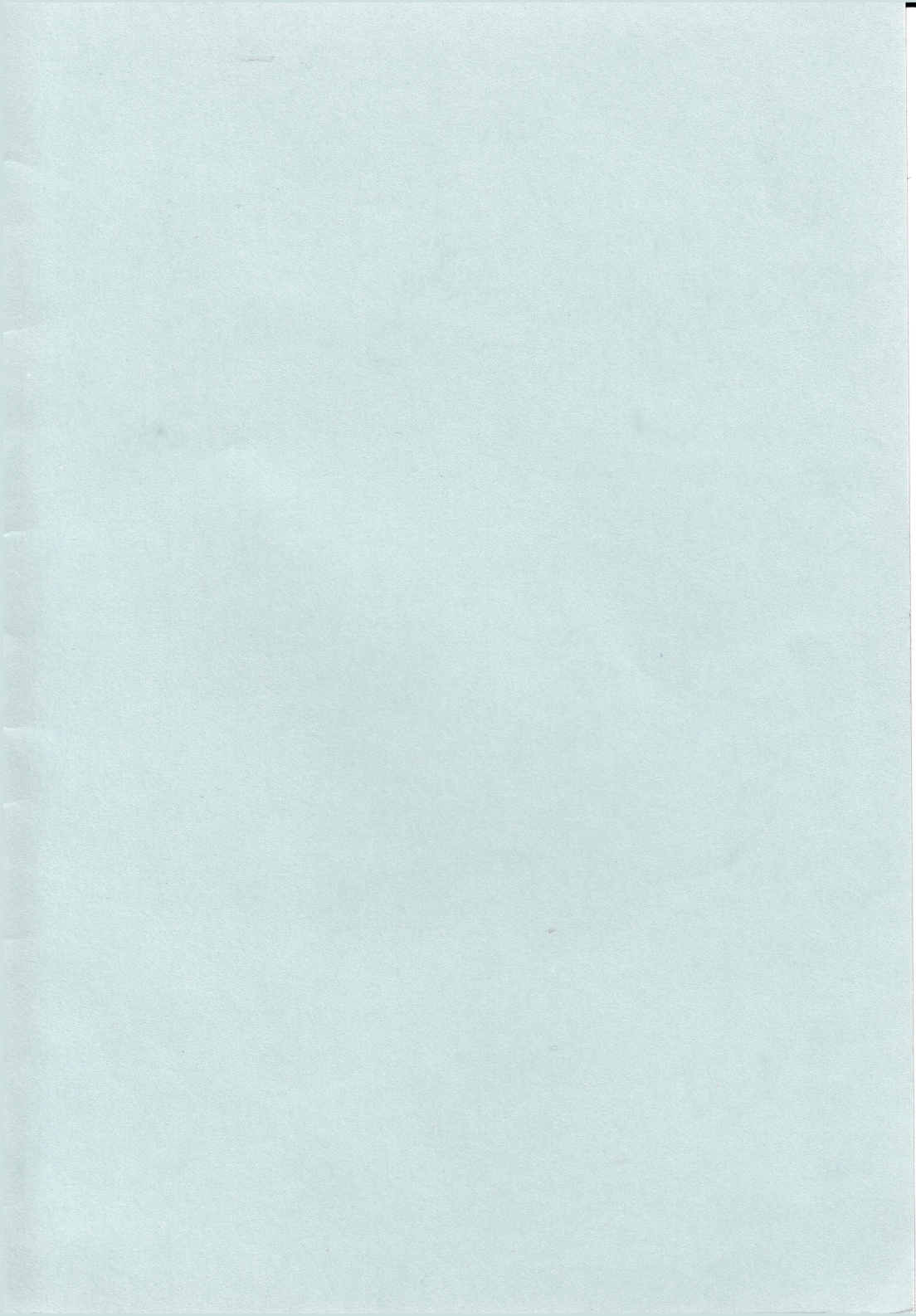
By developing their own massive struggle in defence of their interests as an exploited class against the decline in their living conditions, by forging their solidarity in the struggle, by becoming aware of how serious are the stakes in the present situation, the workers in every country will be able to put an end to capitalism and all its barbarism.

**THE WORKERS HAVE NO FATHERLAND!
WORKERS OF ALL COUNTRIES, UNITE!
CLASS WAR AGAINST THE WAR OF IMPERIALIST
BANDITS!
CAPITALISM MUST BE DESTROYED BEFORE IT
DESTROYS HUMANITY!**

International Communist Current

25 March 1999

Distributed in Germany, Belgium, Spain, USA, France, Britain, India, Italy, Mexico, Holland, Sweden, Switzerland, Venezuela.



How to contact the groups of the Communist Left

(Write to the groups below, omitting the group's name)

International Communist Party — *Il Programma Comunista*

CP 962
1-20100 Milan
Italy

International Communist Party — *Il Comunista*

CP 10835
1-20100 Milan
Italy

International Communist Party — *Il Partito Comunista*

ICP Editions
BP 52
Liverpool L69 7AL
Great Britain

ICP — *Il Partito Comunista* Web site:
<http://perso.wanadoo.fr/italian.left/>

The International Bureau for the Revolutionary Party

Internationalist Communist Party — *Battaglia Comunista*

CP 1753
20100 Milan
Italy

Communist Workers Organisation

PO Box 338
Sheffield, S3 9YX
Great Britain

IBRP Web site: <http://www.geocities.com/~italianleft/>

The ICP — *Battaglia Comunista* archives are at:

<http://www.imprese.com/mesp/mesp.html/>

International Communist Current

BM Box 869
London WC1N 3XX
Great Britain

ICC Web site: <http://www.internationalism.org/>